

Tiverton Open Space Commission

Minutes of February 22, 2010

Essex Library, Highland Rd.

Present: Ginger Lacy (Co-chair), Garry Plunkett, Phil Schuyler, Gayle Lawrence, Martin Van Hof, Susan Anderson, Martha Moore and Dick Bixby

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m.

Administrative

- The minutes of the January 27, 2010 meeting were accepted as presented.
- The treasurers report was accepted as presented.
- Garry recorded the volunteer hours for the month. He noted that in 2009 338 hours of labor were donated during the year.
- Garry presented the 2009 annual report for the Pocassetland Stewardship Fund. His motion to use the 2009 Foundation distribution toward repair work on the yellow trail in Weetamoo was approved unanimously. It was agreed at Ginger's suggestion to distribute copies of the report to the fund founders.

Trails and habitat

- Phil reported that bridge #7 in Fort Barton has a broken crosstie that is in need of repair. He noted that he had found the ashes and burnt embers from a bonfire near the trail between bridges 6 and 7. It was agreed that Phil and Dick would do bridge repairs.
- Garry reported that the unauthorized red trail section near the Lake Rd. entrance to Weetamoo has again been reopened and is in full use. He recently inspected the site with Ron Helger, owner of the abutting property, to ensure the trail did not encroach onto his property. Garry also requested members to visit the site before the next meeting when a decision would be made on whether to try again to block off the unauthorized section, or accept it as the official trail and remark the area.
- It was voted to authorize Garry to erect a new entrance sign at the north entrance to the Weetamoo yellow trail where it meets Lafayette Rd. The sign frame is to be similar to the one at the Lake Rd. entrance but somewhat smaller.
- It was voted to authorize Garry to purchase and post a small sign on the meadow trail near where it meets the orange trail. He is also authorized to purchase a sign for the north side of the East Rd. Weetamoo entrance to read, "Additional parking across the street"
- Dick agreed to check on the Chaves property.

Education and grants

- Gayle is awaiting word on the grant application for the upgrade of the East Rd. parking lot.
- Gayle will request the use of the town hall for a wild bird lecture on Sunday, April 25 starting at 2 p.m. Ginger will arrange posters and a news release featuring our speaker Geoff Dennis.
- Gayle announced that roadside cleanup week is April 17 to 25 in Tiverton. Kickoff will be at the DPW garage on April 17 at 9 a.m. where materials will be available. Gayle invites people to adopt road areas for which they will be responsible to keep litter free.

Properties review

- No activity

Next meeting 7 p.m. on Monday, March 15

Adjournment: 8:45 p.m.

Recorded by Dick Bixby